

*Apr 3 P. MONAT*

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## Polish Aide's Defection Is Confirmed by U. S.

By the Associated Press

Col. Pawel Monat, one of Communist Poland's top intelligence officials, has asked for asylum in the United States.

The State Department reported today that Col. Monat has arrived in this country with his family.

Their application for permission to stay is "being processed in the usual manner," a State Department spokesman said.

Press Officer Lincoln White, at a news conference, refused to elaborate except to say Col. Monat defected "some months" ago.

Col. Monat is reported to have been the intelligence boss of Polish military attaches in diplomatic missions around the world. As such, he could be expected to know much about the Poles' military intelligence work, including possible links with the Soviet Union.

### CIA Is Silent

Col. Monat is believed to be in protective custody of American authorities. The Central Intelligence Agency, queried earlier, refused to confirm or deny that Col. Monat had fled Poland.

Mr. White told newsmen he did not know whether the Polish government has protested, as countries usually do in such cases.

Responsible authorities said it was likely Col. Monat and

his family would be given permission to remain. In such cases, defectors are usually questioned very closely in an effort to make sure they are not "double agents."

The New York Times, in a Vienna dispatch by A. M. Rosenthal, said Col. Monat was reported to have turned himself over to United States authorities in Vienna.

The newspaper said the defection "came last summer at a time when a crisis was brewing in Poland," adding: "It had political ramifications. . . . A result of economic and political problems."

### Newsman Ousted by Reds

In Vienna, a spokesman at the United States Embassy told the Associated Press the Embassy knew nothing about such a man but was investigating.

The Times story said:

"It was one of the incidents that helped convince M. Gomułka (Poland's Communist chief) that Communist rule in Poland was rotting because of a lack of 'discipline' and that tougher men and tougher ways were needed inside the Communist apparatus as much as outside it."

Mr. Rosenthal was expelled recently as Times correspondent in Poland. A Foreign Ministry official said "that he had probed too deeply into the internal affairs of the country."